STAR comics
MASTERS
OF THE UNIVERSE™
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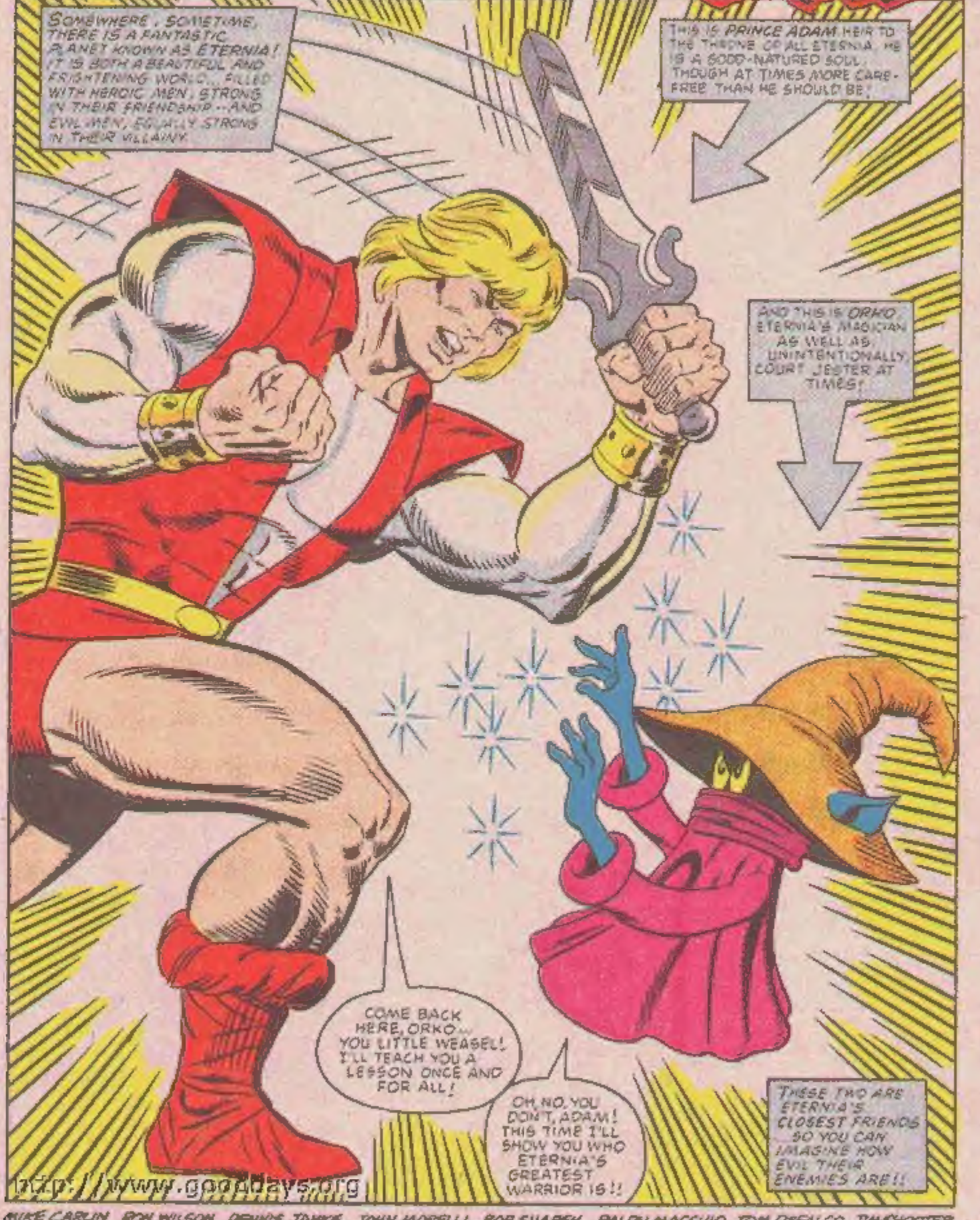
HA HA HA HA! HA HA HA!
OH, NO! PRINCE ADAM IS BEING SLIMED IN HORDAK'S SLIME PIT!
BUT WHAT CAN I DO?
FIND OUT INSIDE!
GIVE THE GIFT OF LITERACY.

THE GARDEN OF EVIL


SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME, THERE IS A FANTASTIC PLANET KNOWN AS ETERNIA! IT IS BOTH A BEAUTIFUL AND FRIGHTENING WORLD... FILLED WITH HEROIC MEN, STRONG IN THEIR FRIENDSHIP --AND EVIL MEN, EQUALLY STRONG IN THEIR VILLAINY.
THIS IS PRINCE ADAM, HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ALL ETERNIA. HE IS A GOOD-NATURED SOUL, THOUGH AT TIMES MORE CARE-FREE THAN HE SHOULD BE!
AND THIS IS ORKO, ETERNIA'S MAGICIAN AS WELL AS UNINTENTIONALLY COURT JESTER AT TIMES!
COME BACK HERE, ORKO... YOU LITTLE WEASEL! I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON ONCE AND FOR ALL!
OH, NO, YOU DON'T, ADAM! THIS TIME I'LL SHOW YOU WHO ETERNIA'S GREATEST WARRIOR IS!!
THESE TWO ARE ETERNIA'S CLOSEST FRIENDS SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW EVIL THEIR ENEMIES ARE!!

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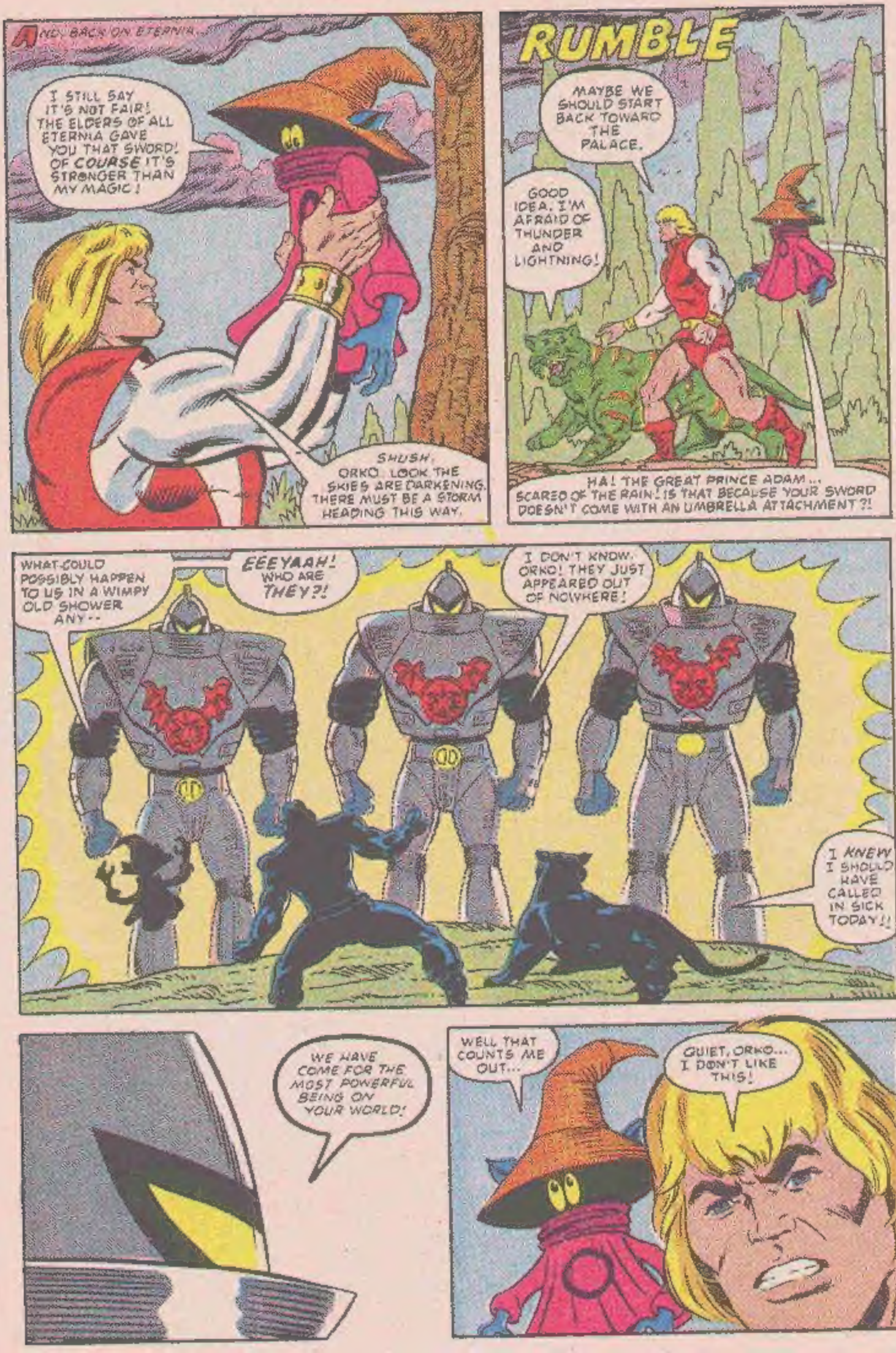
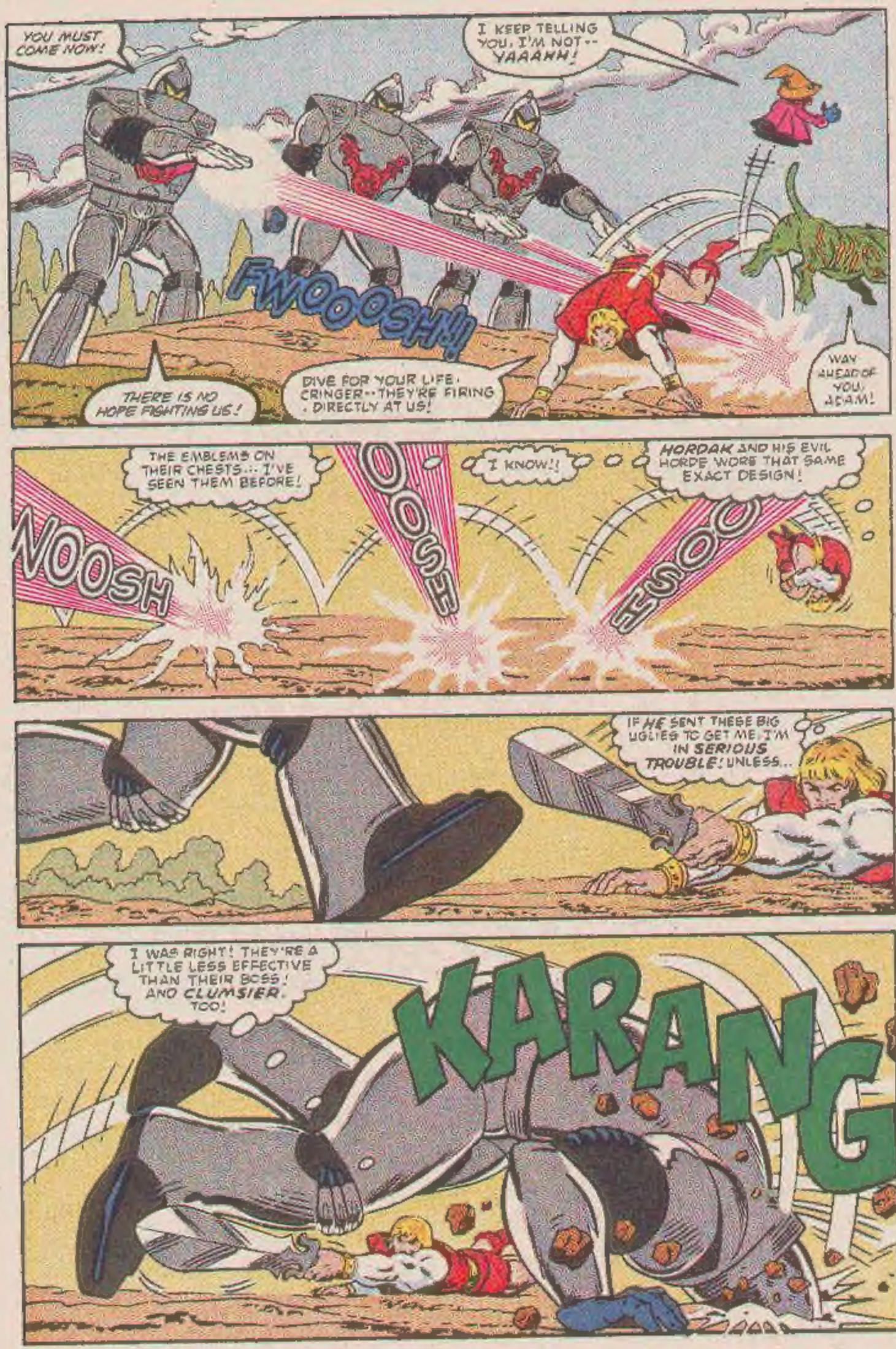
POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

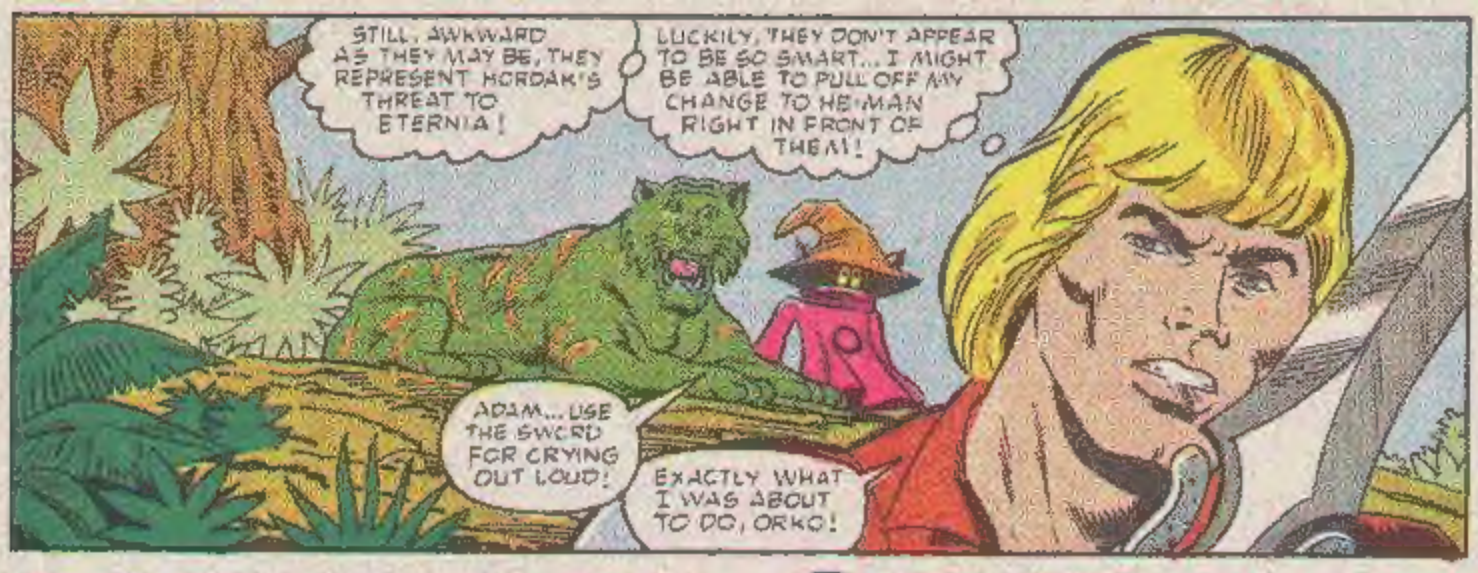
WHEN WE STARTED THIS GAME, I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO USE YOUR SWORD OF POWER!
S-Z'NG
I NEVER SAID I WOULDN'T, CRK, OL' BUDDY.. IT WAS YOUR MISTAKE TO ASSUME AS MUCH!
C'MON, YOU GUYS! I'LL N'T YOU THINK THIS GAME IS GETTING A BIT ROUGH??
UH-UH, CRINGER, HE'S ALWAYS USING THAT THING TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK GOOD!
HA! HA! DO I DETECT A NOTE OF JEALOUSY IN YOUR VOICE, LITTLE PAL??
LOOK, YOU'RE USING YOUR MAGICAL ABILITIES, SO I CAN USE MY SWORD -- IT'S ALL I'VE GOT!
FINE! THEN FAIR'S FAIR! PITTED AGAINST MY MAGIC, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE!
HEAR ME, POWERS FROM A BYGONE AGE, LOCK THIS CLOWN IN AN ENERGY CAGE!!
SWOOP
YES, AND I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU ESCAPE THIS LITTLE BEAUTY!
WHAT?! I'M SURROUNDED BY SOME SORT OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY FIELD!!
KAZAP
FELLAS, THIS IS REALLY GETTING OUT OF HAND!

ORKO'S GOING TO HATE ME EVEN MORE IN ABOUT TWO SECONDS.
WAIT'LL HE SEES THIS MANEUVER!
HEADS UP, ORKO, I'M BUSTING LOOSE!!
CHING
PING
BING
GA-ZING
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S FREE!
THAT WAS ONE OF MY STRONGEST SPELLS!
UH-OH! THOSE ENERGY BANDS...
--ARE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR ME!
HELLLPPP!!
THIS IS JUST GREAT!
THUK!
CHUK!
SHUK!
NOW I'M TRAPPED AGAINST THIS TREE-- BY MY OWN MAGIC!!
GET ME OUT OF HERE... I'M STUCK! PLEASE, ADAM!
SAY "UNCLE" YET, PAL?
HOW HUMILI-ATING!!
HA, HA, HA!
I'M GLAD THAT'S OVER.

OVER? NOT QUITE YET, FOR IN ANOTHER DIMENSION KNOWN AS ETHERIA, A STORM IS BREWING OVER HORDAK'S FRIGHT ZONE...
I HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH!
I HAVE REGAINED MY STRENGTH AND FORMULATED A PLAN!!
I WAS FORCED TO RETREAT WHEN I LAST TANGLED WITH ETERNIA'S BLOND CHAMPION -- HE-MAN -- AND FOR THAT HE SHALL PAY DEARLY! *
AND I, HORDAK, SHALL COLLECT THAT DEBT!!
* IN MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE # 1!
HE IS A VERY POWERFUL ENEMY... AND IF I AM TO TAKE ETERNIA AS MY OWN, I MUST HAVE HIM -- AND HIS POWERS!
THAT IS WHY I HAVE SUMMONED YOU, MY HORDE TROOPERS!!
RUMBLE
YOU WILL STORM ETERNIA AND SET INTO MOTION MY PLAN FOR REVENGE!!
YOU MUST BRING ME THE BODY OF ETERNIA'S MOST POWERFUL BEING!
FAIL, AND YOU SHALL BE SENT BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME!
NOW, GO!!
AND DO NOT RETURN TO MY FRIGHT ZONE WITHOUT THE BLOND SWORDSMAN I CALL MY ENEMY!


AND BACK ON ETERNIA...
I STILL SAY IT'S NOT FAIR! THE ELDERS OF ALL ETERNIA GAVE YOU THAT SWORD! OF COURSE IT'S STRONGER THAN MY MAGIC!
SHUSH, ORKO. LOOK THE SKIES ARE DARKENING. THERE MUST BE A STORM HEADING THIS WAY.
RUMBLE
MAYBE WE SHOULD START BACK TOWARD THE PALACE.
GOOD IDEA. I'M AFRAID OF THUNDER AND LIGHTNING!
HA! THE GREAT PRINCE ADAM... SCARED OF THE RAIN! IS THAT BECAUSE YOUR SWORD DOESN'T COME WITH AN UMBRELLA ATTACHMENT?!
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAPPEN TO US IN A WIMPY OLD SHOWER ANY--
EEEYAAH! WHO ARE THEY?!
I DON'T KNOW, ORKO! THEY JUST APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE!
I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE CALLED IN SICK TODAY!!
WE HAVE COME FOR THE MOST POWERFUL BEING ON YOUR WORLD!
WELL THAT COUNTS ME OUT...
QUIET, ORKO... I DON'T LIKE THIS!


YOU MUST COME NOW!
I KEEP TELLING YOU, I'M NOT-- YAAAHH!
FWOOOSH!!
THERE IS NO HOPE FIGHTING US!
DIVE FOR YOUR LIFE, CRINGER--THEY'RE FIRING DIRECTLY AT US!
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, ADAM!
THE EMBLEMS ON THEIR CHESTS... I'VE SEEN THEM BEFORE!
NOOSH
OOSH
I KNOW!!
HORDAK AND HIS EVIL HORDE WORE THAT SAME EXACT DESIGN!
ESOO
IF HE SENT THESE BIG UGLIES TO GET ME, I'M IN SERIOUS TROUBLE! UNLESS...
I WAS RIGHT! THEY'RE A LITTLE LESS EFFECTIVE THAN THEIR BOSS! AND CLUMSIER, TOO!
KARANG


STILL, AWKWARD AS THEY MAY BE, THEY REPRESENT HORDAK'S THREAT TO ETERNIA!
LUCKILY, THEY DON'T APPEAR TO BE SO SMART... I MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL OFF MY CHANGE TO HE-MAN RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM!
ADAM... USE THE SWORD FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!
EXACTLY WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DO, ORKO!

WELL, HURRY! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!
BY THE POWER OF GRAY-SKULL--

FWOOSH

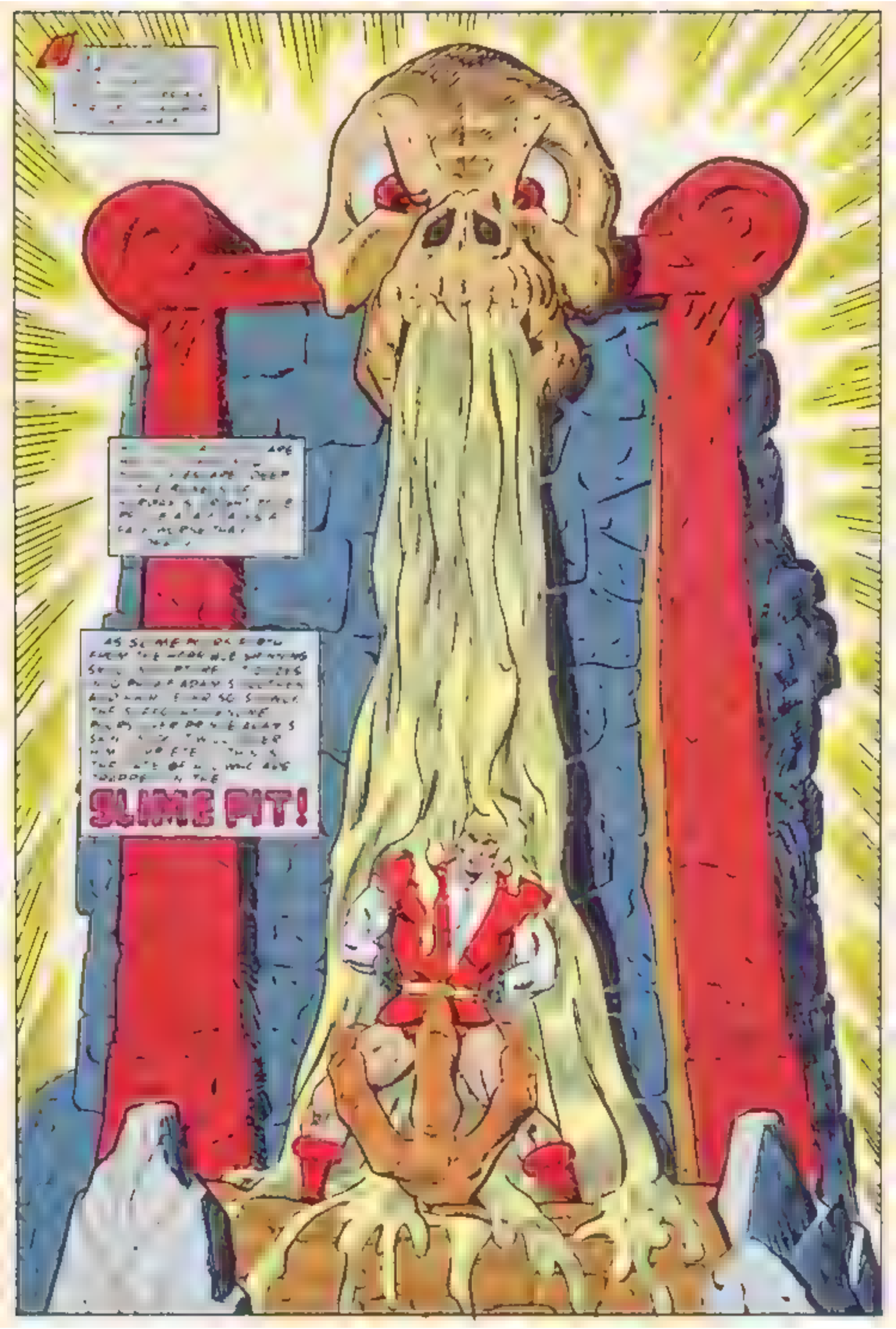
--I HAVE THE-- ARRG!!

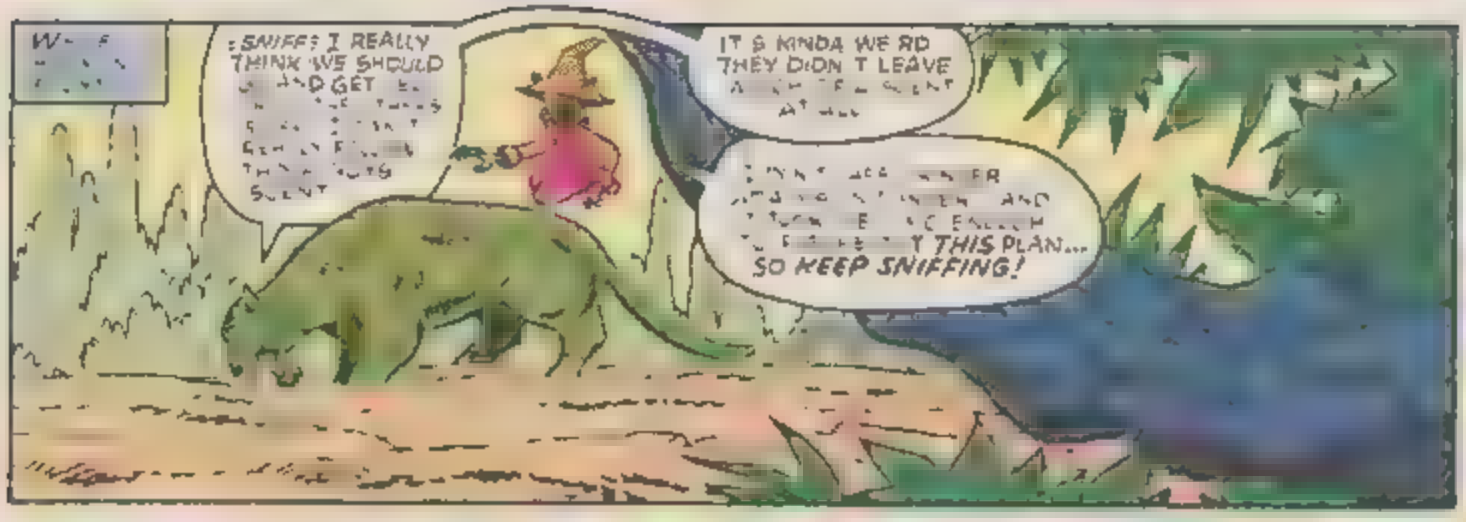
HE IS DOWN.
TAKE HIM... AND HIS WEAPON.

OUR CREATOR WILL BE FREED!
YES LET US RETURN TO OUR DIMENSION WITH ETERNIA'S GREAT PRIZE!
OH MY.
THEY'VE TAKEN PRINCE ADAM, AND WE WON'T DO A THING TO STOP THEM!
W-WHAT COULD WE HAVE D-DONE??
THEY'D HAVE BEATEN US TOO!
AT LEAST NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO ETERNIA FOR HELP!
HELP? WHAT FOR?? IT'S OUR FAULT ADAM'S MISSING! WE HAVE TO FIND HIM OURSELVES!
ALONE? B-BUT--!
BESIDES, THIS IS JUST THE THING TO PROVE TO ADAM THAT HE'S NOT THE ONLY GOOD THING IN ETERNIA!
WE'LL SAVE HIM! AND HE MIGHT NOT BE SO COCKY ABOUT THAT STUPID SWORD ANYMORE!
OH, BROTHER--!
OKAY.. LET'S SEE... FIRST WE'VE GOTTA--
FIRST, THAT IS-- WE--
FIRST WE--
GEE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO FIRST--!
ADAM'S DOOMED!!

AND BACK IN THE FRIGHT ZONE...
MASTER, WE HAVE RETURNED WITH THE ONE YOU SEEK.
BRING HIM CLOSER, TROOPER! I CANNOT SEE HIS SHAME AT BEING CAPTURED SO SWIFTLY BY MINDLESS MINIONS SUCH AS YOURSELVES!
NO! YOU IDIOTS!!
THIS IS NOT THE MAN I MET ON ETERNIA! THIS IS NOT HE-MAN!
IT IS HORDAK!! AS I SUSPECTED!
AND HE REALLY DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME IN THE FORM OF PRINCE ADAM!
HOW COULD YOU HAVE BEEN SO STUPID!? THIS FOOL LOOKS NOTHING LIKE HE-MAN!!
HE'S NOT HALF THE SIZE--NOR HALF AS POWERFUL AS HE--! EH. WHAT'S THAT?
THAT SWORD! IT'S HIS! THAT'S HE-MAN'S SWORD!!
OH, NO! IF I CAN'T GET TO MY SWORD, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ESCAPE HORDAK'S CLUTCHES!
THIS HUMAN MUST BE HE-MAN'S SLAVE!
GIVE ME THAT! IT PLEASES ME TO HAVE SUCH AN AWESOME WEAPON!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T TOUCH THE SWORD!

SHRAK
ARRGGHH!
GET HIM NONE MAY GIVE ORDERS TO HORDAK!
THE CURSED SWORD PROTECTS ITSELF
HOW CAN I HARNESS ITS GREAT POWER IF I CANNOT GO NEAR IT WITHOUT ENDANGERING MYSELF? ANY INFERIOR BEING WOULD PERISH FROM SUCH AN ASSAULT!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO TOUCH
YOU DARE MOCK ME
ERY WELL YOU HAVE SEALED YOUR FATE
IT WILL NO BE LONG BEFORE HE MAN MOVES AGAINST HORDAK AND WHEN HE DOES I SHALL FORCE HIM TO SURRENDER THE SWORD'S GREAT POWER TO MY BODY!
AND KNOWING HEROIC DOLTS LIKE HE MAN, HE WILL BE HERE SOON TO RESCUE HIS FOOLISH SLAVE FROM HER
BUT HE-MAN WILL BE TOO LATE! TAKE THIS HUMAN TO THE SLIME PIT!

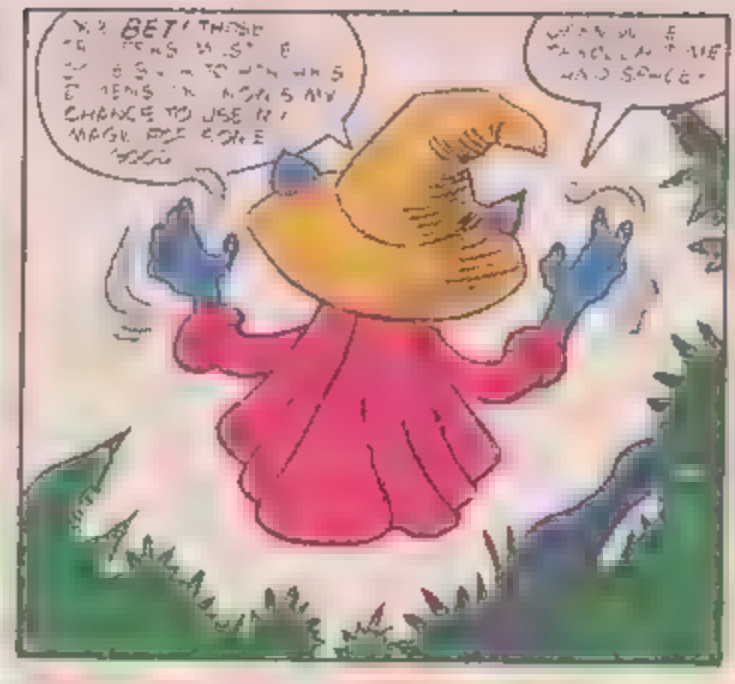

SLIME PIT!

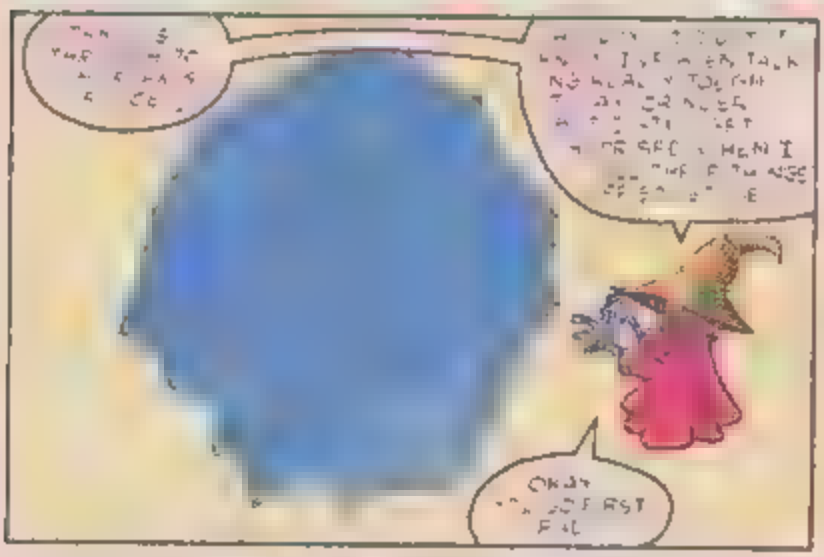

:SNIFF: I REALLY THINK WE SHOULD
IT'S KINDA WEIRD THEY DIDN'T LEAVE
THIS PLAN...
SO KEEP SNIFFING!

WE'VE JUST GOT TO FIND ADAM... OR EVERYONE BACK AT THE
I ONLY HOPE MY MAGIC IS STRONG ENOUGH TO SAVE HIM!

WHAT?
I SURE HOPE ADAM CAN HOLD OUT
WHILE LONGER...

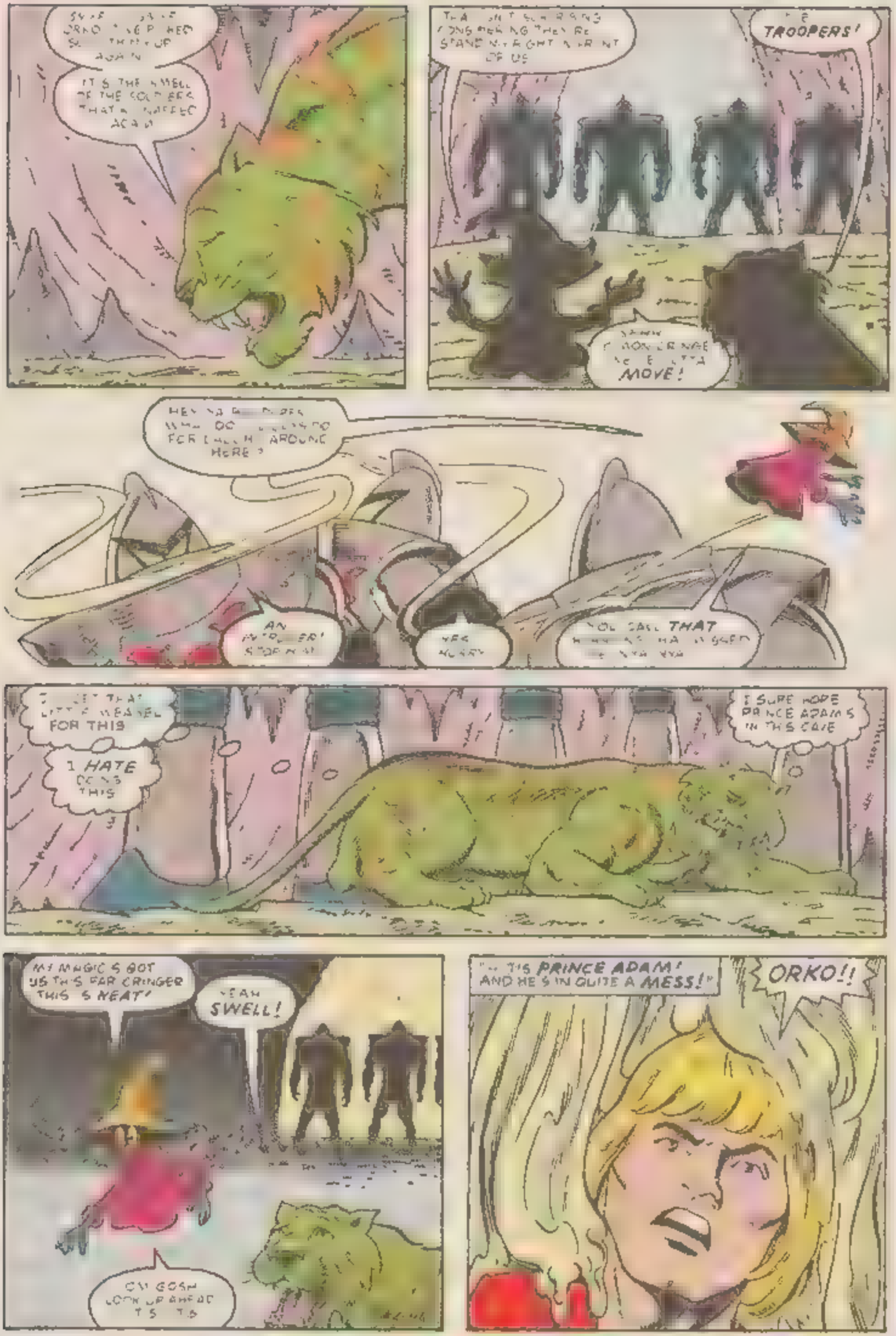
WAIT!


BET!

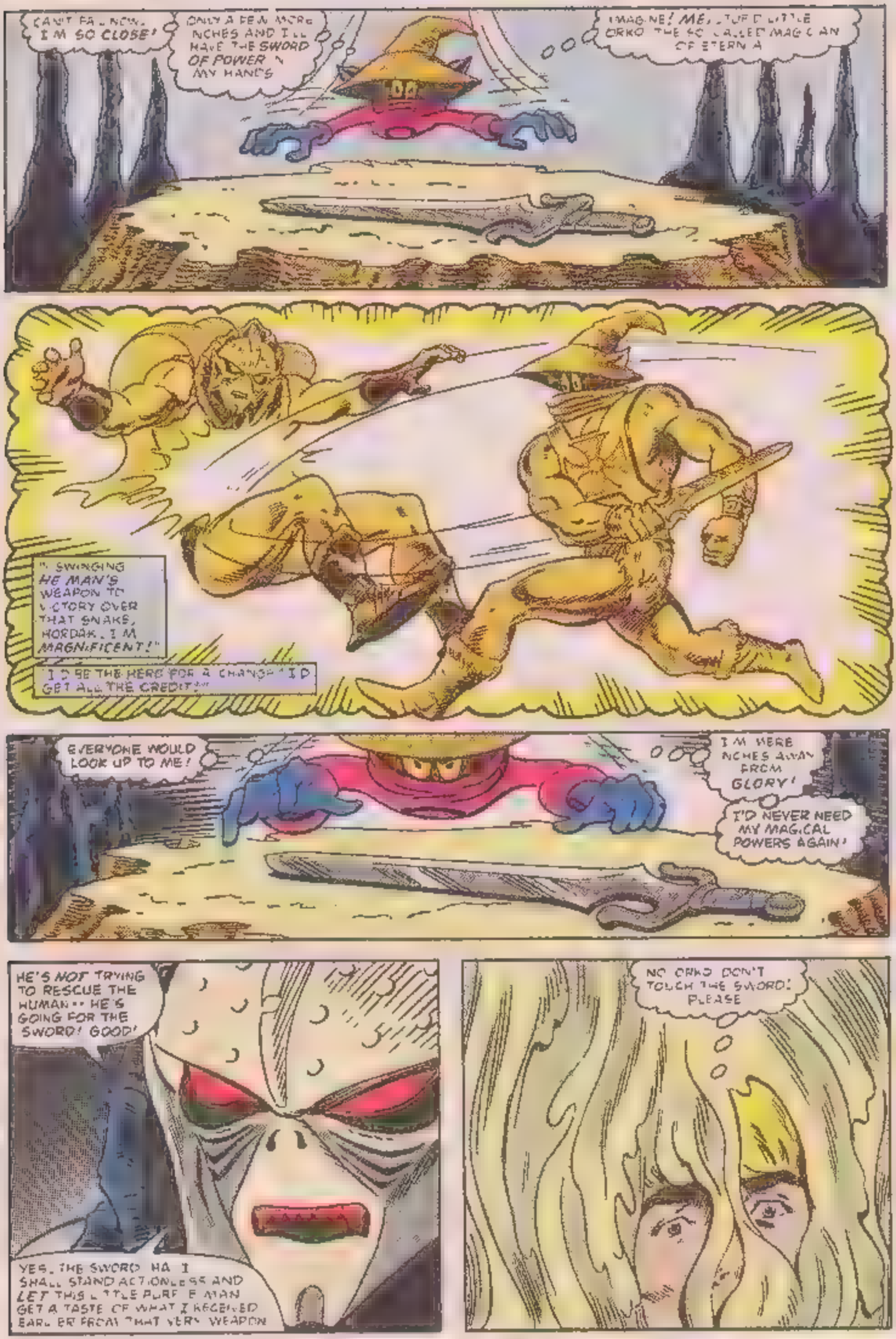


BABY!
HEY!

IT'S GETTING BRIGHTER IN HERE ALREADY! BESIDES


TROOPERS!
MOVE!
AN INTRUDER! STOP HIM!
I HATE DOING THIS
I SURE HOPE PRINCE ADAM IS IN THIS CAVE
MY MAGIC'S GOT US THIS FAR CRINGER THIS 'S NEAT!
YEAH SWELL!
ORKO!!
"... 'TIS PRINCE ADAM! AND HE'S IN QUITE A MESS!"

REMIND ME
RKO! THE SWORD! THE SWORD!
SWORD!
LURGFFGHHHE!
I AM HEADING


CAN'T FA..NOW. I'M SO CLOSE!
ONLY A FEW MORE INCHES AND I'LL HAVE THE SWORD OF POWER IN MY HANDS
IMAGINE! ME, TUFF LITTLE ORKO THE SO CALLED MAGICIAN OF ETERNIA
"...SWINGING HE MAN'S WEAPON TO VICTORY OVER THAT SNAKE, HORDAK. I'M MAGNIFICENT!"
I'D BE THE HERO FOR A CHANGE! I'D GET ALL THE CREDIT!"
EVERYONE WOULD LOOK UP TO ME!
I'M HERE INCHES AWAY FROM GLORY!
I'D NEVER NEED MY MAGICAL POWERS AGAIN!
HE'S NOT TRYING TO RESCUE THE HUMAN-- HE'S GOING FOR THE SWORD! GOOD!
YES. THE SWORD HA I SHALL STAND ACTIONLESS AND LET THIS LITTLE PUNY MAN GET A TASTE OF WHAT I RECEIVED EARLIER FROM THAT VERY WEAPON
NO ORKO DON'T TOUCH THE SWORD! PLEASE

NO! I AM ORKO THE MAGICIAN! I'M THE BEST AT WHAT I DO. JUST AS HE IS THE BEST AT WHAT HE DOES. IT'S MAGIC, I DO THE TRICK!
NO! YOU'RE AN HEER OR BEING! YOU MUST TOUCH THE SWORD!
AND GET A TASTE OF THE SHOCK I HAD WHEN I TOUCHED IT!
SURE HOPE I DID THE RIGHT THING! IF I DIDN'T WE'RE NOT JUST DEAD OR SLAVE OR SOMETHING!
THEY'RE STEALING THE POWER SWORD!
HORDE TROOPERS! TO MY SIDE AND STOP THEM!
BEFORE THEY CAN GET ON MY BAD SIDE AGAIN!
I ALSO HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE
FOR ADAM'S SAKE

PRINCE ADAM SPEAKS THE MAGIC WORDS TO HIMSELF
BY THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL-
--I HAVE THE POWER!!
KRA-KOOM
AND TRANSFORMS INTO HE-MAN!

OH, NO! I KNEW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN!
WHOA! THIS TRANSFORMATION TO BATTLE-CAT ALWAYS FEELS SO FUNNY!
ROARR
GOOD FELLA BATTLECAT! IT'S TIME FOR US TO DO A NUMBER ON HORDAK!
RRROAARRR
WHAT?! THE SLIME PIT HAS EXPLODED! AND THERE, COMING THROUGH THE DEBRIS, IS HE-MAN!
I KNEW WITH THAT LITTLE PURPLE MAGICIAN AROUND, HE-MAN COULD NOT BE FAR BEHIND!
THIS IS NOT UNFOLDING AS I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED.. YET I DID WANT HE-MAN... AND NOW HE'S MINE!
HORDE TROOPERS TO BATTLE! RENDER HE-MAN HELPLESS FOR ME!
FIGHT THEM AND DESTROY THEM!
YOU GUYS NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU??

WELL, YOU WILL NOW!
KA-
RAASHH!
WELL, WELL, WELL, BATTLECAT, WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT!
I GUESS THIS EXPLAINS HOW COME THE HORDE TROOPERS WERE ABLE TO CARRY THE SWORD--
--THEY WERE JUST MINDLESS, LIFELESS SUITS OF ARMOR ANIMATED BY HORDAK'S MAGIC!
AND WHAT WILL THEY THINK OF NEXT?!
THAT ALSO EXPLAINS WHY I SENSED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL RIGHT TO CHANGE INTO HE-MAN EARLIER... THEY WOULDN'T HAVE UNDERSTOOD WHO I REALLY WAS!
YOU'VE DESTROYED THEM! MY HORDE TROOPERS! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS OUTRAGE!
YOU SHALL PAY BY FACING THE PERIL OF MY HURRICANE OF HATE!!
VOOOSH

HURRICANE? HORDAK DOES HURRICANES, TOO!? I WONDER IF HE DOES IMPRESSIONS AS WELL?
THIS IS HARDLY THE TIME FOR JOKES, ORKO!
SORRY, HE-MAN
VOOOOSH
SO, YOU STILL ADVANCE UPON ME, HE-MAN. YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN YOU ARE BEATEN, DO YOU?
VOOSH!
CAN'T SAY THAT I DO, HORDAK!
B-BUT, HE-MAN--!
GET YOURSELF TO SAFETY, ORKO! I'M GOING TO CAPTURE HORDAK!
STILL COMING, EH? WELL, I HAVE MORE WEAPONS AT MY DISPOSAL! AND LIKE YOURSELF, I HAVE ALLIES WHO WILL RIDE INTO BATTLE WITH ME!
BY THE POWER WITHIN ME, I CONJURE YOU FORTH--
-- COME FORTH MY TRUSTY MANTISAUR!
YEEAH!! HE-MAN! LOOK!
I SEE IT, ORKO! I ALSO SEE HURRICANE HORDAK HAS RETURNED!
VOOSH!
GO, ORKO! I MUST FIGHT FOR OUR HOMEWORLD, ETERNIA! AND THE SITUATION LOOKS GRAVE INDEED!
WAIT, HE-MAN, DON'T GO! HORDAK'S TOO POWERFUL! YOU'LL GET HURT!

COME TO ME, HE-MAN! COME TO MEET YOUR FATE!
VOOOOOSH
YOU SHALL NO LONGER THREATEN INNOCENT WORLDS, HORDAK! NOT WHILE I'M IN EXISTENCE!
OH GOSH! I CAN'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO HE-MAN!

I'M ONLY A GUY IN A LONG RED SHIRT, BUT I ASK FOR PASSAGE BEFORE MY FRIEND GETS HURT!

ORKO! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
A MAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A MAN'S GOTTA DO, HE-MAN!
EVEN IF HE IS A LITTLE PURPLE MAN!
NO. YOU CANNOT ESCAPE ME NOW! I DID NOT EXPECT THIS TURN OF EVENTS! COME BACK!

CLOSE UP NOW, HOLE. DO NOT FAIL US, 'CAUSE IF YOU DON'T HORDAK'LL TAIL US!
CURSE YOU, HE-MAN! I SHALL HAUNT YOU FOREVER... UNTIL ONE OF US IS NO MORE...
NICE WORK, ORKO!
YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT MAD THAT I YANKED US OUTTA THERE WHEN YOU WANTED TO STAY AND FIGHT?
NO WAY! YOU DID GOOD, LITTLE BUDDY!

I WAS IMPRESSED WITH YOUR DECISION EARLIER ABOUT THE SWORD. I KNOW WHAT USING IT WOULD'VE MEANT TO YOU.
SO HOW CAN I QUESTION SUCH A MATURE DECISION-MAKER'S DECISION TO GET US OUT OF ETHERIA WHEN THE GETTIN' WAS GOOD?
WELL, YOU KNOW. IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY.
CAN WE GO HOME, NOW?
HAHAHAHA HAHAHAHA!!
THE END